

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**Please enter the following amended claims:**

1. (currently amended) ~~AA~~ polypeptide enzyme isolated from a microorganism,  
wherein said polypeptide has having an activity to act upon a disaccharide glycoside to  
thereby release saccharides from said disaccharide glycoside in a disaccharide unit,  
wherein said disaccharide glycoside has a glucose moiety at the aglycon side,  
wherein said polypeptide enzyme has an ~~substantial~~ activity ~~even at a pH 2.5 to 3, or less~~  
and  
wherein said polypeptide is stable at 50°C or less, and  
wherein the microorganism is selected from the genus *Aspergillus*, the genus *Penicillium*,  
the genus *Rhizopus*, the genus *Rhizomucor*, the genus *Talaromyces*, the genus *Mortierella*, the  
genus *Cryptococcus*, the genus *Microbacterium*, the genus *Corynebacterium* and the genus  
*Actinoplanes*.
2. (currently amended) The polypeptide enzyme according to claim 1, wherein said  
disaccharide glycoside is selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -primeveroside, a rutinose  
glycoside, a gentiobiose glycoside, an arabinofuranosyl glycoside and an aviofuranosyl glycoside  
and/or an analogous disaccharide glycoside.
3. (currently amended) A variant of a polypeptide isolated from a microorganism  
which comprises a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8 shown in the  
Sequence Listing,

wherein said variant comprises an amino acid sequence having one or more amino acid residues of the amino acid sequence are modified by at least one of deletion, addition, insertion and substitution,

wherein said variant has at least 50% homology with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:8, and

wherein said variant has also having an activity to act upon a disaccharide glycoside to release saccharides from said disaccharide glycoside in a disaccharide unit,

wherein said disaccharide glycoside has a glucose moiety at the aglycon side,

wherein said polypeptide has activity at pH 2.5 to 3, and

wherein said polypeptide is stable at 50°C or less.

4. (previously amended) A polypeptide isolated from a microorganism which comprises a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8 shown in the Sequence Listing.

5-10. (canceled).

11. (currently amended) A method for producing a polypeptide ~~an enzyme~~ having an activity to act upon a disaccharide glycoside to release saccharides from said disaccharide glycoside in a disaccharide unit, wherein said disaccharide glycoside has a glucose moiety at the aglycon side,

said method comprising which comprises culturing a microorganism in a nutrient medium to effect production of the polypeptide ~~enzyme having an activity to act upon a disaccharide glycoside to release saccharides from said disaccharide glycoside in a disaccharide unit,~~ and subsequently collecting said polypeptide ~~enzyme~~ from the resulting culture mixture,

wherein said polypeptide enzyme has a substantial activity ~~even at pH 2.5 to 3, or less~~  
and ~~wherein said polypeptide~~ is stable at 50°C or less, and

wherein the microorganism is selected from the genus *Aspergillus*, the genus *Penicillium*,  
the genus *Rhizopus*, the genus *Rhizomucor*, the genus *Talaromyces*, the genus *Mortierella*, the  
genus *Cryptococcus*, the genus *Microbacterium*, the genus *Corynebacterium* and the genus  
*Actinoplanes*.

12. (canceled).

13. (currently amended) The method for producing a polypeptide ~~an enzyme~~ having  
an activity to act upon a disaccharide glycoside to release saccharides from said disaccharide  
glycoside in a disaccharide unit according to claim 11 ~~or 12~~, wherein the polypeptide enzyme is  
inducible by addition of a saccharide to the nutrient medium.

14. (currently amended) The method for producing a polypeptide ~~an enzyme~~  
according to claim 13, wherein the saccharide is selected from the group consisting of gentose,  
gentiobiose, and gentio-oligosaccharide.

15-21. (canceled).

22. (new) An isolated polypeptide represented by amino acids 1-466 of SEQ ID  
NO:8.